

# DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ

April 2009

## DISTRICT II

KAHALU'U \* KO'OLAULOA \* NORTH SHORE \* WAHIAWA \* MILILANI MAUKA



### COUNCIL CALENDAR 2009

#### Committee Meetings:

**Wednesday, Apr. 22**  
Next full Council meeting

**Tuesday, Apr. 7**  
Zoning - 9 am  
Publ. Infrastructure - 1 pm

**Wednesday, Apr. 8**  
Budget - 9 am  
Executive Matters and Legal Affairs - 1 pm

**Thursday, Apr. 9**  
Transportation and Planning - 9:00 am  
Public Safety and Services - 1:00 pm

- Times are subject to change

## Package to Increase Public Health and Safety

I have introduced a public health, safety and welfare (PHSW) legislative package to enhance the security and welfare of our residents.

As chair of the City Council's Public Safety and Services Committee, I felt it was necessary to develop initiatives aimed at increasing the safety of Oahu residents. Being an avid bicyclist, the package includes legislation for bike safety, as well as various legislations addressing pedestrian safety.

To improve the safety of bicyclists, the package incorporates legislation to install bike lockers at city facilities along with requests to the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) to investigate implementing a green bike box program. This program is designed to prevent collisions between bicyclists and motorists by designing a green box lane designated only for bicyclists. The box lane is designed to ensure vehicles yield to bicyclists.

I am also asking DTS to explore developing a bicycle-sharing system on Oahu, similar to programs in Washington D.C.; Montreal, Canada; and Rennes, France. A bicycle-sharing program allows riders to rent a bicycle at one location and drop it off at another location. The program is aimed at decreasing traffic congestion while decreasing pollution from automobiles.

To improve pedestrian safety, I have introduced a resolution asking DTS to identify the crosswalks which have had the most pedestrian accidents and install in-road lighting and other appropriate traffic safety devices.

To address the depleting resources of our emergency services, I am asking the city auditor to determine if the city's current fleet of ambulances and emergency notification vehicles is sufficient to support the needs of Oahu.

Finally, I am asking the city, state and federal governments to prioritize and expedite the installation of new civil defense emergency sirens and repair existing sirens.

Ensuring the health and safety of its citizens should always be a priority for government. These measures are aimed at improving the health and safety of our residents while supporting the work of our city departments and first responders.



Green Box in Portland, OR

#### PHSW Package Summary

- Bill 30 - Installation of bike lockers at city facilities
- Reso 09-83 - Implementing a green box program
- Reso 09-84 - Implementing a bicycle sharing program
- Reso 09-85 - Increase pedestrian safety at high accident intersections.
- Reso 09-86 - Audit to ensure adequate amount of ambulances
- Reso 09-87 - Expediting installation and repair of civil defense sirens.

# DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ

## CITY COUNCIL

### Council Honors Ho'oulu Winners

On March 18, 2009, the City Council honored Hawaii Institute of Public Affairs Ho'oulu award honorees. The recipients demonstrated leadership in the fields of business, labor, government, community, and culture and arts.

Dean Okimoto, the winner of the HIPA Award for Business, is the owner of Nalo Farms and Local Island Fresh Edibles. Sustainability in Hawai'i has always been his goal and he's proved that agriculture can facilitate that by grossing over \$3 million through his two companies.

Timothy Johns, the HIPA Award for Community recipient, is the president and chief executive officer of the Bishop Museum. His work in the community has been ongoing since he is often sought after for his leadership, insight and foresight. He currently serves on the boards of several nonprofit and government organizations whose efforts are to address and meet the needs of Hawaii's citizens.

Ronald Taketa, the recipient of the HIPA Award for Labor, is the Financial Secretary and Business Representative of the Hawaii Carpenter's Union. He has successfully negotiated huge Project Labor Agreements (PLA) covering all unionized work on privatized military housing for 50 years, something unprecedented in other jurisdictions.

Maurice H. Kaya, the HIPA Award recipient for Government was recently appointed technical director for Pacific International Center for High Technology Research (PICHT). He has helped to shape Hawaii's energy policy for over two decades as division head of the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism's Energy Division. His expertise in clean energy technologies and policies has been sought by the U. S. government as well as governments of other countries.

Candy Suiso, recipient of the HIPA Award for Culture and Arts, is the Program Director of Waianae High School's award winning multimedia program known as Searider Productions. She was unable to attend the meeting to receive her certificate as she was in Florida with 25 of her students attending the Student Television Network National High School Convention.



### Bulky Item Concerns

My office continues to receive calls relating to bulky trash being left out too early. Although bulky item problems are islandwide, certain areas such as Koa Street in Wahiawa seem to have persistent problems with bulky items being improperly placed. As you are aware, bulky trash left on our streets is not only an eye sore but it also becomes a health and safety hazard.

The city has convenience centers in Wahiawa and Laie that are available for residents with additional garbage disposal needs. Both locations are open from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily.

Please help keep our community clean by only putting out bulky items on collection days or utilizing the City convenience centers.

For more information on bulky item pickup or the City's convenience centers, please call my office at 768-5002.

### COUNCIL DISTRICT II STAFF

**Kimberly Ribellia**, Senior Advisor  
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# **DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ**

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## **CITY COUNCIL**

### **Resolution to Protect Ag Lands**

Much of the population of my council district is made up of farmers. I am a very strong advocate of preserving agriculture within District II, as well as the rest of the City & County of Honolulu. The ability to grow our own produce makes us less dependent on importing and allows farmers to have more control over pricing. Unfortunately, “gentlemen’s farms” threaten agricultural lands and pose a potential harm to the characteristics of our rural towns.

For this reason, I have introduced Resolution 09-90 which amends the Land Use Ordinance to make it harder for gentlemen’s farms to develop.

Gentlemen’s farm are areas zoned AG-1 Restricted Agricultural District or AG-2 General Agricultural District that are subdivided with the resulting lots marketed as “estate parcels” where large luxury homes can be built. This luxury residential marketing occurs because of the “farm dwelling” stipulation within the LUO which is defined as being located on and used in connection with a farm where agricultural activity provides income to the family occupying the dwelling.

The resolution will identify AG-1 and AG-2 lands as being within the state-designated agricultural district and designated agricultural by the LUO. They will also be identified as predominantly classified as prime or unique under the agricultural lands of importance to the State of Hawaii.

The minimum lot area will be increased from 5 acres to 25 acres for AG-1 land and from 2 to 3 acres to 10 acres for AG-2 lands. In addition, farm dwellings will only be permitted if the land to be developed has been in active agricultural use for three years and has generated a minimum of \$10,000 in gross receipts within that time. After the dwelling is constructed, the land will be required to continue generating at least \$10,000 from agricultural use for the years ahead. Only one dwelling will be permitted per lot and its floor area cannot exceed 1,500 square feet.

An editorial by the Honolulu Star-Bulletin explained that buying local keeps dollars in the island economy, reduces energy consumption and greenhouse gases and provides fresher, more nutritious products. In order to continue to buy local, we need to continue to grow local. It is imperative we preserve the farming way of life and not compromise it for developments.

### **Dela Cruz and Administration Tour Waialua, Haleiwa**

On Friday, April 3, 2009, I was joined by department directors of the City & County of Honolulu administration and community leaders to take a tour of the flooding areas in Waialua and Haleiwa. The guests included Kirk Caldwell, Managing Director; Collins Lam, Deputy Director of the Department of Design and Construction; Keoki Miyamoto, Deputy Director of the Department of Facility Maintenance; Peter Hirai, Deputy Director of Emergency Management; Michael Lyons and Jacob Ng, Chair and Vice Chair of the North Shore Neighborhood Board, respectively.

The tour began at Waialua District Park for the Civil Defense siren testing. The group then toured Otake Camp, Kiapoko Ditch, Ki’iki’i Stream bridge, Haleiwa Road, Kaiaka Bay Beach Park, Pake Ditch and Twin Bridges.

The tour was designed to give the administration a closer look at a problem that has been affecting the community for many years. The winter season brings the heavy rains which cause problems for area residents. Flooding has become more of a probability than a possibility in recent years because of the debris that blocks the stream outflow. In fact residents were virtually trapped because areas along Farrington Highway were closed because of the large runoff and the alternate route, Waialua Beach Road, was closed because Kiapoko Ditch was flooded.

Flooding is a problem that should have been addressed years ago. I hope that from this tour the administration will work with District 2 residents to resolve the flooding issue that has consistently been a plague to this community.

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## CITY COUNCIL

### **Full Council Action Items**

The following actions were taken by the City Council on **March 18, 2009**:

### **Third Reading**

- Bill 70 (2008), CD1 - Relating to signs. (Amending certain Land Use Ordinance provisions relating to sign regulations, with the intention of increasing the efficacy of sign master plans and improving equity in the application of certain sign regulations, and with particular regard for the Waikiki Special District.)
- Bill 10 (2008), CD2—Relating to transit-oriented development. (Providing for the establishment of transit-oriented development special districts and accompanying land use regulations around rapid transit stations.)

### **First Reading**

- Bill 14 - Relating to the Legislative Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010.
- Bill 15 - Relating to the Executive Operating Budget and Program for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010.
- Bill 16 - Relating to the Executive Capital Budget and Program for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010.
- Bill 19 - Relating to real property taxation. (Providing a one-time real property tax credit to eligible owners of real property.)
- Bill 20 - Relating to motor vehicle weight tax. (Increasing the motor vehicle weight tax.)
- Bill 21 - Relating to Highway Beautification and Disposal of Abandoned Vehicles Revolving Fund. (Increasing the Highway Beautification and Disposal of Abandoned Vehicles fee.)
- Bill 23 - Relating to fees for use of municipal golf courses. (Increasing golf fees.)
- Bill 30 - Relating to bicycle lockers. (Requiring the installation of bicycle lockers at City facilities, and to make conforming amendments.)
- Bill 34 - Relating to parking fees. (Increasing City parking fees.)
- Resolution 09-88 - Initiating amendments to the Revised Charter of the City and County of Honolulu 1973, as amended, relating to the Department of Emergency Services.
- Resolution 09-89 - Initiating amendments to the Revised Charter of the City and County of Honolulu 1973, as amended, relating to the Department of the Medical Examiner.

### **Resolutions**

- Resolution 09-47, CD1 - Requesting the City Clerk to explore implementing an online voting program for City elections.
- Resolution 09-69, CD1 - Establishing an advisory working group to educate, advise and assist the City and County of Honolulu in its efforts to increase the use of sustainable planning, design and construction practices.

### **Second Reading/Public Hearing**

- Bill 4 (2009) - Relating to the use of electronic devices while operating motor vehicles. (Prohibiting the use of certain electronic devices while operating a motor vehicle.)
- Bill 2 (2009), CD1 - Relating to public parks. (Improving the City's ability to regulate camping at public parks.)

### **District 2 Neighborhood Board Meeting Schedule April 2009**

<b>Kahalu'u Neighborhood Board</b>	KEY Project	4/8/09
<b>Ko'olauloa Neighborhood Board</b>	Hau'ula Civic Center	4/9/09
<b>Mililani Mauka/Launani Valley</b>	Mililani Mauka Elementary Cafeteria	4/21/09
<b>Wahiawa Neighborhood Board</b>	Wahiawa District Park	4/20/09
<b>North Shore Neighborhood Board</b>	John Kalili Surf Center	4/28/09